

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 INRE-00 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01  
TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01  
ACDA-12 DOE-11 SOE-02 DOEE-00 CEA-01 STR-07 IO-14  
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-----028645 171714Z /45

O 171521Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1104  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
USMISSION USUN  
USMISSION USNATO  
AMCONSUL ADANA  
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL  
AMCONSUL IZMIR  
USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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USEEC

USINFO FOR IOP/M, IPS/PE, IBS/PN, IEU

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PEPR, TU, US  
SUBJ: NIMETZ INTERVIEW WITH DOGAN ULUC IN HURRIYET

1. INTERVIEW OF DEPARTMENT COUNSELOR MATTHEW NIMETZ BY  
DOGAN ULUC TOOK UP MOST OF AN INSIDE PAGE OF INDEPENDENT,  
MASS CIRCULATION HURRIYET MARCH 17. THE ARTICLE, FLAGGED  
AT TOP OF PAGE ONE WITH PICTURE AND BOX READING "AMERICA  
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MUST NOT LOSE TURKEY'S FRIENDSHIP--SPECIAL STATEMENT BY  
VANCE'S RIGHT ARM, NIMETZ," IS ACCOMPANIED BY MORE PICTURES  
WITH CAPTIONS EMPHASIZING NIMETZ'S HIGH POSITION.

2. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF ARTICLE, WITH  
QUESTIONS PARAPHRASED AND HURRIYET'S VERSIONS OF NIMETZ'S  
ANSWERS GIVEN IN FULL (ALLOWANCE SHOULD BE MADE FOR FACT THAT

ANSWERS SHOWN HAVE GONE THROUGH TRANSLATION TWICE,  
ENGLISH-TURKISH AND TURKISH-ENGLISH.

BEGIN TEXT

NIMETZ POINTED OUT THAT THE SPEECH MADE BY VANCE AT THE SENATE HAS BEEN MISUNDERSTOOD AND SAID "THERE IS NO CHANGE IN OUR POLICY, WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN ANNOUNCED. WE DID NOT STATE THAT THE MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS AND THE TURKISH PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE UN SECGEN WERE CONDITIONS FOR THE TURISH-AMERICAN DCA TO BE TAKEN UP IN THE CONGRESS IN THE BEGINNING OF APRIL. WE DID NOT LINK THE TWO EVENTS, BUT, AS YOU KNOW, WE IMMEDIATELY TOOK ACTION TO CORRECT THIS MISUNDERSTANDING." MR NIMETZ CONSIDERS THE RECENT ATTEMPTS OF PRIMIN ECEVIT IN FOREIGN POLICY AS "EXTREMELY CONSTRUCTIVE AND PEACEFUL." HE SAID: "PRIMIN ECEVIT BEGAN TAKING ACTION IN A MALLER LIABLE TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS BEFORE WAITING FOR THE US GOVERNMENT OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY TO MAKE A REQUEST ON THIS SUBJECT. AS THE USA, WE APPLAUD THESE EFFORTS OF ECEVIT. WE BELIEVE THEY WILL LEAD TO POSITIVE RESULTS".

NIMETZ AGREED THAT THE FIRST WEEK IN APRIL WILL BE A TURNING POINT IN US-TURKISH RELATIONS AND ADDED: "THE COMING WEEKS WILL VERY DIFFICULT WEEKS. DURING DEBATES THAT WILL TAKE PLACE IN CONGRESS ON AID BILLS TO TURKEY AND GREECE,  
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WE'LL EXPRESS OUR OPINION AS THE ADMINISTRATION. AT PRESENT MY COLLEAGUES AND I ARE WORKING TO PREPARE A DOCUMENT WHICH WILL FORMULATE THIS VIEW. LATER WE'LL SUBMIT THIS TO THE WHITE HOUSE IN THE FORM OF A REPORT FOR APPROVAL. ECEVIT NO DOUBT IS AWARE OF OUR CONGRESSIONAL PROCEDURES. BUT I SHOULD LIKE TO REPEAT THAT THE GOVERNMENT VIEWS WHICH WE'RE TRYING TO FORMULATE HAVE NO LINK WITH THE SUMMIT MEETING OR THE PROPOSALS ON CYRPUS."

NIMETX ALSO SAID: "THE MONTHS OF MARCH AND APRIL ARE THE PERIOD WHEN FOREIGN AID BILLS ARE EXAMINED AND VOTED ON IN CONGRESS. THE DEBATES HAVE BEEN DEFERRED BECAUSE OF THE ACCUMULATION OF OTHER BUSINESS, SUCH AS THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES AND THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM. THE MATTER WAS DEFERRED TO BE BE TAKEN UP IN APRIL, BECAUSE THE CONGRESS WILL HAVE ITS EASTER RECESS BETWEEN MARCH 23 AND APRIL 3."

ON THE SUBJECT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF TURKEY FROM THE VIEW-POINT OF THE UNITED STATES, NIMETZ STATED THE FOLLOWING: "FROM A STRATEGIC POINT OF VIEW, TURKEY HAS ALWAYS BEEN A VERY IMPORTANT COUNTRY THROUGHOUT HISTORY. TURKEY, A STABLE, SETTLED AND DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY, HAS ALWAYS BEEN CONSIDERED IN

THE FOREGROUND BY ITS NEIGHBORS. TURKEY, THE ONLY MUSLIM COUNTRY IN NATO, IS ALSO A SOURCE OF CONFIDENCE WITH ITS GROUND FORCES, SECOND IN NUMBERS ONLY TO THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE ALLIANCE. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ITS HISTORY, ALL MEMBERS OF NATO HAVE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS. TURKEY'S VALUE IS PROPERLY VIEWED IN VIEW OF ITS POSITION IN THE BUBBLING EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN, IN THE STRIFE-TORN MIDDLE EAST AND IN THE PETROLEUM REGION."

IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION WHETHER THE UNITED STATES ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO TURKEY IN VIEW OF THE PRESENCE OF AMERICAN BASES ON ITS SOIL, NIMETZ SAID: "THE IMPORTANT POINT FOR US IS OUR POLITICAL COOPERATION WITH TURKEY. I DON'T WANT TO DISREGARD THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BASES FOR THE UNITED STATES, AS WELL AS FOR NATO, BUT FOR US BASIC RELATIONS COME FIRST. UNCLASSIFIED

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FURTHERMORE, INTELLIGENCE-GATHERING FACILITIES ARE MUCH LESS IMPORTANT THAN FRIENDSHIP WITH TURKEY."

WHEN I POINTED OUT THAT TURKEY BEGAN HAVING IMPORTANT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF ITS HIGH EXPENDITURE FOR MILITARY MATERIAL AND QUIPMENT NIMETZ GAVE THE FOLLOWING ANSWER: "TURKEY APPEARS TO HAVE ENTERED A STABLE PHASE WITH THE NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PREPARED BY THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT. WHEN I VISITED TURKEY, I ALSO LOOKED INTO THE MATTER OF ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES AND DISCUSSED THEM WITH TURKISH OFFICIALS WHO GAVE ME INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT. FRIENDLY WESTERN COUNTRIES WILL EXTEND THEIR HAND OF ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. THIS AID WILL BEGIN WITH THE IMF CHANNEL AND CONTINUE THROUGH OTHER SOURCES. TURKEY, HAVING NATURAL RESOURCES IN ABUNDANCE, HARD-WORKING AND CAAPABLE PEOPLE, AND A SOUND SOCIETY, WILL OVERCOME ITS DIFFICULTUES, EVEN IN THE LONG TERM. THE US ADMINISTRATION WILL BE IN CONTINUING CONTACT WITH THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT."

AFTER WE EXPRESSED OUR OPINION ON THE SUBJECT OF EMBARGO AND CA, NIMETZ SAID: "I DON'T SHARE THE SAME VIEW WITH YOU. THE EMBARGO HAS NOT BEEN A VERY IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE EMERGENCE OF TURKEY'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. PRESENTLY YOU ARE RECEIVING 165 MILLION DOLLARS AS LOAN ASSISTANCE.

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AMCONSUL IZMIR  
USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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WHEN THE DCA IS PUT IN FORCE THIS AMOUNT WILL GO UP TO  
250 MILLION DOLLARS. THE 85 MILLION DOLLAR DIFFERENCE HAS  
NOT BEEN AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE EMERGENCE OF ECONOMIC  
DIFFICULTIES. THE EMBARGO AND DCA WILL BE TAKEN UP BY THE  
EUROPEAN SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF THE CONGRESS OF APRIL 4, DURING DEBATES ON THE  
FOREIGN AID PROGRAM, LATER THE MATTER WILL BE REFERRED TO  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE FOR VOTING.  
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THERE IS A NEED FOR A HIGHER AMOUNT THAN STIPULATED IN THE  
DCA TO INCREASE THE STANDARD TO ENABLE THE TURKISH ARMED FORCES  
TO CARRY OUT THEIR MISSION. BUT, LET'S SEE FIRST THAT THE  
AGREEMENT IS APPROVED. LATER WE'LL TAKE UP THE ADDITIONAL  
AID. AS YOU KNOW, THIS AGREEMENT IS A SUBJECT MUCH DISCUSSED.  
WE HAVE STATED A NUMBER OF TIMES THAT WE APPROVE OF THIS  
AGREEMENT."

I POINTED OUT TO NIMETZ THAT WHEN THE GREEK DEFENSE

MINISTER PAID A PRIVATE VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES RECENTLY, HE STATED THAT IN ORDER TO OBSTRUCT THE APPROVAL OF THE TURKISH-AMERICAN DCA, THEY WILL NOT SIGN THE GREEK-AMERICAN DCA, BUT PRESIDENT CARTER DECIDED TO SUBMIT BOTH AGREEMENTS TO THE CONGRESS AT THE SAME TIME TO ENSURE THEIR RATIFICATION. NIMETZ SAID: "GREECE HAS CONFERRED WITH US ON THE SUBJECT OF THE AGREEMENT AND INDICATED THAT THEY ACCEPTED IT IN PRINCIPLE. WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO EXERT PRESSURE ON THEM, HOWEVER, TO SIGN THIS AGREEMENT. THE TURKISH DCA IS NOT LINKED WITH THE AGREEMENT MADE BUT NOT YET SIGNED WITH GREECE. THE TURKISH-AMERICAN DCA MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS AS A SINGLE AGREEMENT. THERE IS NO INCONVENIENCE." NIMETZ SAID THAT "OUR BASES IN GREECE ARE OPERATING AT FULL CAPACITY." WHEN I ANSWERED THAT "YOU HAVE NOT IMPOSED ANY EMBARGO ON GREECE," THE CHIEF CONSULTANT ON TURKISH RELATIONS JUST SMILED.

ON THE SUBJECT OF THE INFLUENCE OF GREEK LOBBY IN THE CONGRESS, NIMETZ SAID THE FOLLOWING: "WE CANNOT DENY THE INFLUENCE OF ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS WITHIN THE AMERICAN SYSTEM. THE EMBARGO, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED THE DOING OF THE GREEK LOBBY. THE USE OF AMERICAN ARMS CONTRARY TO LAWS HAS BEEN THE PRIMARY FACTOR IN THE IMPOSITION OF THE EMBARGO. TO SAY THAT THE GREEK LOBBY CAUSED THE IMPOSITION OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THE EMBARGO IS A VERY SIMPLISTIC EXPLANATION."

ASKED WHAT MAY BE THE ATTITUDE OF THE CONGRESS, NIMETZ SAID; "MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE APPEAR TO BE IN FAVOR OF THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO AND THE APPROVAL OF DCA. HOWEVER, CONGRESS CONSISTS OF 435 MEMBERS COMING FROM VARIOUS SECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES. SOME OF THESE MEMBERS ARE PRESENTLY MORE CONCERNED WITH THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY AND SOME INTERNAL PROBLEMS. BUT AN IMPORTANT PART OF THEM WANT THE SOLUTION OF THIS AGGRAVATED PROBLEM. PERSONALLY, I AM HOPEFUL."

IN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION, IF THE AGREEMENT DOES NOT REACH A FAVORABLE RESULT NOW, WHAT WILL HAPPEN, NIMETZ SAID: "BOTH PRIME MINISTERS AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADMINISTRATIONS ARE NEW IN GOVERNMENT. THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BY THE GOVERNMENTS BEFORE US. THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE A VERY IMPORTANT TEST IN TERMS OF OUR RELATIONS. BUT I DON'T EVEN WANT TO CONSIDER IT FROM AN UNFAVORABLE ANGLE AND MAKE A COMMENT."

ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION, NIMETZ SAID: "I AM HOPEFUL FOR THE SOLUTION OF CYPRUS ISSUE. BOTH PARTIES PRESENTLY DESIRE AND AGREE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BIZONAL, BICOMMUNAL STATE

FORMED BY TWO FEDERATIVE STATES. THE GREEK CYPRIOTS LAST YEAR PUT FORWARD THEIR PROPOSALS ON LAND AND CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS. NOW TURKEY WILL PUT ON THE TABLE ITS PROPOSALS AND MAPS, AND THE TWO APRTIES WILL REACH AN AGREEMENT. I HAVE WITNESSED IN CYPRUS THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS I TALKED TO ARE EAGER TO REACH AN AGREEENT. TURKISH CYPRIOTS AND TURKEY HAVE ALSO A GENUINE DESIRE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT. I HAVE THE BELIEF THAT THEY WILL ARRIVE AT A SOLUTION SATISFACTORY FOR BOTH SIDES."

ON THE AEGEAN QUESTION, NIMETZ SAID: "THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT SUBJECT THAT CONCERNS ONLY THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE UNCLASSIFIED

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UNITED STATES WILL IN NO WAY GET INVOLVED IN THIS QUESTION. WE CAN ONLY WANT THE PARTIES TO ENGAGE IN PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS." NIMETZ CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS AS FOLLOWS: "I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT AGAIN THAT WE REGARD TURKEY AS A VERY IMPORTANT FRIEND; WE HAVE GREAT RESPECT FOR TURKISH DEMOCRACY. HOLDING OF ELECTIONS, CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATIONS BETWEEN PARTIES ARE VERY HEALTHY DEVELOPMENTS. WE ARE HAPPY TO SEE THEM. WE WANT TO LEARN MUCH MORE ABOUT TURKEY, BECAUSE TURKS ARE OUR CLOSE ALLIES, OUR FRIENDS WHOM WE DON'S WANT TO PART WITH..."  
END TEXT  
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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PEPR, SOPN, TU, US, (NIMETZ, MATTHEW), (ULUC, DOGAN)  
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